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RADIANT WAVE ENERGY-COUPLED TEST METER

B-3

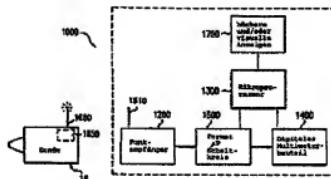
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Abstract of CA2152024

Test meter assemblies of the type having one or more hand held probes for sensing various parameters, and a meter unit capable of producing signals indicative of values of the sensed parameters, incorporate a signal transmitter associated with the probe and a corresponding signal receiver associated with the meter unit, for delivering signals indicative of the sensed data from the probe to the meter unit free of reliance upon an electrically conductive physical path between the probe and the meter unit. In one embodiment, the source of electrical power for the transmitter is self-contained, as in the form of one or more fully portable batteries, while in another embodiment, the transmitter is coupled to an external source of electrical energy. The source of external energy is in the more of a handle or a grip, carrying batteries or a pluggable power cable; the probe housing is attached to the handle by means of a coupling that serves as an electrical connector for the power circuit. A radio frequency transmitter and a corresponding receiver are disclosed as a principal embodiment; other embodiments of the invention incorporate an infra-red transmitter and corresponding receiver, or an optical fiber link coupling an optical signal transmitter to an optical signal receiver.



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